

**Amendment Filed With A Request For Continued Examination**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: October 19, 2009

Signature: /Christina M. Sperry/  
(Christina M. Sperry, Reg. No. 47,106)

Docket No.: 101896-234 (DEP5100CIP)  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Tushar Patel et al.

Application No.: 10/777,019

Confirmation No.: 2233

Filed: February 11, 2004

Art Unit: 3733

For: TISSUE RETRACTOR AND GUIDE DEVICE

Examiner: D. C. Comstock

**AMENDMENT FILED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Applicant submits this paper and a **Request for Continued Examination** in response to the final Office Action dated September 4, 2009.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.